Alberta Treasury
Economic Bulletin

ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK OF AUGUST 14 TO AUGUST 18, 2000

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month	Month'00/ Month'99	Comments
Consumer Price Index	July			
Alberta	118.2	0.9%	4.0%	Alberta's CPI rose by 0.9% from June, the highest monthly increase among provinces together with British Columbia (0.9%). On a year-over-year basis Alberta's CPI was up 4.0% from July 1999, the second highest year-over-year increase behind Prince Edward Island (4.7%).
Canada	114.1	0.4%	3.0%	
Canadian Composite Leading Index (1992=100)	July 163.8	0.4%	8.0%	The Canadian leading economic indicator increased by 0.4% in July. Six of the ten components experienced gains. Largest increases were seen in the housing index (1.9%) and TSE 300 stock price index (2.7%). The U.S. leading indicator (-0.1%) turned negative for the first time since early 1996. The slide was mainly due to the inverting yielding curve with short-term rates rising over long-term yields.
Wholesale Trade ($millions)	June			
Alberta	3,021	-0.8%	12.3%	In June, Alberta wholesale trade fell by 0.8% from May; national wholesale trade saw an increase of 0.3%. Increases were reported in Ontario (1.5%) and Quebec (0.3%) while the other eight provinces saw declines over the last month. On a year-over-year basis, Alberta (12.3%) still had the greatest increase in wholesale trade among provinces in June.
Canada	32,154	0.3%	8.4%	
Trade Balance	June			
Canada ($millions)	4,955	22.8%	61.8% [a]	From January to June of 2000, Canada's trade surplus was 61.8% higher than the same period last year. Export growth (2.3%) continued in June, led by exports of energy (17.6%) and automotive products (2.6%). Imports fell 0.4% after increasing for three consecutive months, led by imports of machinery and equipment (-2.5%).

[a] Y.T.D 2000 / Y.T.D 1999